

# Giving at Pathway Church



Everything in the world belongs to God, not us! That is why, as a church, we trust God for all we need, including finance. He provides in many ways, but a big way is through the sacrificial giving of our church family. This giving is used to fund the mission of the church, including looking after buildings and grounds, energy costs, administration, resources, teas and coffees, food, outreach activities, and supporting our minister through salary and the manse. All of this, we believe, is for God's Kingdom purposes.

This guide can help you consider how you can join with others in giving.

## WHY GIVE TO THE CHURCH?

In our world, money is often seen as a symbol of status and success. That isn't how God sees it. Jesus warns against placing our treasure in wealth, telling us to treasure things of his Kingdom more highly because (unlike money) they never fade. You can find this in Matthew 6:19-24. If this is true, the reason we give finance is to invest in the Kingdom and partner with God by resourcing his work. Paul gives this guidance:

**<sup>6</sup>Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. [2 Corinthians 9:6-7]**

So, we do not give because we are compelled or forced to do so. No-one is going to ask you to leave if you do not give, and nor is God! There is a far better reason to give than that: to 'sow' into God's Kingdom. We want to see God's Kingdom built and his church here grow. We can join in with that by giving sacrificially to the cause. If we truly want to see a harvest, we have to be willing to plant a seed, and finance is part of that.

Paul's guidance, in light of that, is to give generously, to give the amount we've decided on with God, and to give cheerfully. It is a privilege and joy to partner with God and his purposes!

## HOW MUCH TO GIVE?

There isn't only one right answer to this! Paul told people to give what they had decided to rather than set the amount himself. Most people find it useful to decide on a percentage of their income, and many use the biblical principle of 'tithing' (giving 10%), so you could start there. We also know that people give to other causes and organisations. This is a good thing, and each of us needs to decide with God how to break that down.

But remember, everything we have comes from God, so what we give and what we keep is his and can be used generously as he leads us to. But once you have made a decision with God about giving, stick to it, as it is important to follow through on spiritual commitments.

## HOW TO GIVE

You can give in different ways to Pathway Church (note: for banking purposes, we operate under our old name, 'Beauchief Baptist Church'). You can:

- **Give physically.** At our church building there are collection bags where you can place a gift – these are regularly checked.
- **Give via your bank.** You can make one-off or regular gifts by setting up a standing order to the church. Our bank details are:

**Name: Beauchief Baptist    Sort Code: 54-41-50    Acc. No: 0410 1499**

If you plan to give regularly, please consider setting up a standing order. It helps you and helps us budget more effectively. If you need help, speak to a member of our leadership.

## TAX-EFFICIENT GIVING (GIFT AID)

Because we are a charity, we can claim 'gift aid' on donations made by UK taxpayers. It means that for every £1 you give, we receive an extra 25p from the government. That means a gift of £100 is worth £125 to us, and doesn't cost you any extra!

For us to claim gift aid on your gift, you need to fill in the form below. To be eligible, the amount of income and/or capital gains tax you pay must be at least equal to the amount of tax the church (and other charities) will reclaim in the same financial year. For example, if your gift was £100 a month (so £1,200 a year), you would need to have paid at least £300 in tax (25% of £1,200). If this is you, please fill in and return this cut-off.

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## GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want to Gift Aid my donation of ..... and any donations I make in the future or have made in the last 4 years to: BEAUCHIEF BAPTIST.

(I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.)

Full Name: .....

Full Home Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

If your situation changes, it is your responsibility to let our treasurer know so that we can stop claiming Gift Aid on your donations.